GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6542
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2000
POPULATION OF OLD PEOPLE
SAHIB SINGH VERMA

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of population of 60 plus in 1951 and 1991;

(b) whether there is a sharp increase in population of this particular group;

(c) if so, the population of this group expected to be by 2021 AD;

(d) whether the Government have framed a National Policy for this group of population;

(e) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(f) the number of mobile medical units envisaged for this group?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) to (c) As per the Office of the Registrar General of India, the number of old age population (persons 60 years and above) in 1951 and 1991 was 196.123 lakhs and 566.823 lakhs respectively, which shows a significant increase in their population. As per the report of the Technical Group on Population Projection constituted by the Planning Commission `Population Projections for India and States 1996-2016`. Population of people aged 60 + is estimated to be 959.2 lakhs in the year 2011. This figures for the year 23021 is not available.

(d) to (e) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowermenthas formulated a National Policy on older persons. The salient features of this policy, inter-alia, include financial security, health care and nutrition, shelter housing, establishment of a welfare fund, protection of life and property, provision of appropriate concessions, rebates and discounts, formation of self-help groups, preparation of sectoral Annual and Five Year Plans etc. for the older people etc.

(f) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment provides grant-in-aid toNGOs under the scheme. An Integrated Programme for Older Persons for running Mobile Medicare Units. Presently, 56 Mobile Medicare Units are being assisted under the scheme.